

Appl. No.: 10/614,325
Art Unit: 1712 Docket No.: B02-31
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the two paragraphs beginning at page 2, line 5, starting from "The present invention," with the following amended paragraphs:

--The present invention is directed to a golf ball having a core and a cover, particularly to a golf ball core or cover having ~~[[a]]~~ an elastomeric composition formed from a base polymer and at least one carbon-carbon initiator. When heated to a decomposition temperature of about 150°C to about 300°C, the carbon-carbon initiator breaks along an elongated carbon-carbon single bond of at least ~~about 1.55~~ 0.155 nm in length with a half-life of about 10 hours to about 0.1 hours to form carbon-based free radicals that facilitates the crosslinking in the base polymer.

Suitable carbon-carbon initiators for the present invention include, but are not limited to, aliphatic hydrocarbon initiators, alicyclic hydrocarbon initiators, aromatic hydrocarbon initiators, substituted carbon-carbon initiators, and oligomeric carbon-carbon initiators. ~~[[Mst]]~~ Most preferred are hydrocarbon initiators that are compatible with the base polymer.--